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DCI-15  
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2 JAN 1979

*Xerox passed to  
Tony Lapham by RRR  
2 Jan 79*

REDRAFT OF LETTER TO GRIFFIN BELL

(MIDDLE OF THIRD PARAGRAPH WHERE IT SAYS FIRST --  
MAKE IT A SUBPARAGRAPH:)

First, <sup>the</sup> new procedures ~~were established~~ would establish an unusual precedent in directing that the head of a collecting entity, e.g., the Director of NSA, would be required to by-pass me in carrying out this particular function. He would even have to refuse to show me such foreign intelligence if I happen to ask about it. I believe <sup>that</sup> this would ~~set a dangerous~~ ~~pr~~

take us a step backward from the reforms and improvements we have attempted to make in the intelligence process in recent years. ~~indeed~~ <sup>Indeed,</sup> I believe some of the most grievous abuses of the intelligence process in years past have occurred <sup>r</sup> in part because the Director of Central Intelligence was excluded from certain information. It is my strong opinion that we ~~should~~ not only <sup>should</sup> not tolerate this, but should not direct it as in this instance. (TS)

Secondly, there is ~~an~~ <sup>genuine</sup> issue as to whether ~~information/~~ ~~genuine/foreign/intelligence/contains/some/of/these/reports/~~ ~~genuine foreign intelligence contains some of these reports.~~ ~~Whether~~ it is vital to disseminate the foreign intelligence contained in some of these reports, <sup>or</sup> and if not vital, whether it is proper and equitable to do so. I believe it would be quite dangerous, for instance, to allow any individual advisor to the President to ~~control~~ have total control over the dissemination

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of information which might involve the President or other advisors to the President and about which such persons themselves should be informed. (I certainly <sup>code</sup> see that the President should have this authority, but no one else). *Under your proposed directive,*  
*i* In such circumstance it would be up to the <sup>head of the</sup> collecting entity to appeal the decision of a particular advisor not to disseminate a report containing foreign intelligence. As a practical matter, his only appeal would be to the President and that is an unrealistic alternative. I sincerely believe that in such <sup>the</sup> instance, which would be one of/greatest delicacy, the head of the collecting entity should have the option of turning to the Director of Central Intelligence for advice and support. Hereto, I believe in the past we have had intelligence failures and breakdowns because certain powerful individuals were able to stifle the flow of information which was needed by others. I urge that we not place ourselves in such a position of vulnerability deliberately. (TS)

THAT GOES WITH A LETTER TONY LAPHAM DRAFTED ON 26 DECEMBER - DO INSERT  
IN THE ROUGH; GIVE IT BACK TO TONY ALONG WITH HIS DRAFT LETTER SHOWING WHERE  
IT GOES IN.